

**MINUTES OF THE
1998 MIDWESTERN LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE
ANNUAL MEETING HOST COMMITTEE**

Wednesday, May 13, 1998
10:30 A.M.
Room 156-A, State House
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Members Present: Co-Chairpersons Senator Sue Landske and Representative Jerry Denbo; Senators James Lewis and James Merritt; Representative Robert Behning; Lay Member George Fleetwood.

Members Absent: Senator Glenn Howard; Representatives Dan Stevenson and Mary Kay Budak; Lay Members Maureen Ferguson, Costa Miller and Bill Soards.

Staff Present: Mary Cummins, Legislative Services Agency;

Others Present: Representative Sue Scholer, Chairman of the Midwestern Legislative Conference, and Mike McCabe and Cindy Andrews, Midwest Office of the Council of State Governments (CSG).

Senator Landske, Co-Chairperson of the Committee, called the meeting to order. A quorum was not present.

Mike McCabe and Cindy Andrews of the Midwest CSG Office were called on to update the committee on progress for the 1998 Annual Meeting. Copies of the brochure for mailing were shown to the committee and will be sent very soon. This is the main mailing for the conference and will be followed up with a postcard mailing for one last reminder. The CSG office has received 70 registrations to date. Mike and Cindy said the Committee has done a good job of getting things done in a timely manner. The next thing is to fine tune the budget which requires all the subcommittees to begin to finalize costs so the budget can be adjusted accordingly. These costs should be ready for the next meeting, if at all possible, with the understanding that some changes can still be made as plans for the conference progress.

Fundraising. Mr. McCabe, at Senator Landske's request, has surveyed gaming contributions from other CSG functions across the country and found that two CSG regions have received contributions from them, but none have been received from the other two regions nor the national office. Senator Lewis reported that the Election Board has stated there is no legal problem with soliciting from those interests because the donation is for a conference.

Senator Lewis reported a total of \$130,000 raised to date. The Finance Subcommittee and other members continue to make contacts. Mr. McCabe addressed fundraising concerns as it relates to the Midwestern Governors' Conference surplus raised for this year's conference. He indicated that CSG is willing to work with the Host Committee on a way to utilize some of that

surplus for the Midwestern Legislative Conference. One solution may be some kind of rebate to contributors to the Midwestern Governors' Conference who might then contribute the rebate to the Midwestern Legislative Conference (MLC) Annual Meeting or another plan that CSG and the Host Committee agree on. It was stated again that Indiana is hosting the Midwestern Governors this week, the MLC in August and the 1999 NCSL Annual Meeting. The NCSL Host Committee has begun fundraising for Indiana's promotion at the 1998 NCSL Annual Meeting with a mid-July deadline making it more difficult than usual to raise funds needed for this conference.

Hospitality. Gift bags have been donated from Pfizer and the plan was to have a Pfizer logo on one side and the MLC logo on the other. CSG is concerned about a precedent giving an advantage over other contributors. They would prefer an acknowledgement to insert thanking Pfizer for the bags. The CSG staff will pursue that issue with Pfizer to see what solution can be reached. Letters have been sent asking for donations for the gift bags. GTE has indicated they will supply some cell phones for our use during the conference.

Volunteers. Senator Landske has ordered volunteer shirts. Gerri Hampe, Staff Coordinating Committee (SCC), said recruiting is coming along and as registration numbers increase, more volunteers will be added where needed.

Transportation. Amy Elifritz (SCC) inquired about the status of a police escort and lane blocks at the hotel for the Monday evening event. The tour bus company said they anticipated a need for three motorcycles and one car at the end for the escort and two motorcycles to block loading lanes at the hotel. Representative Behning will contact the city about the lane blocks. He stated that the Sheriff's office needs time information for the escort.

Evening Events, Spouse/Children, and Registration/Host State Office had no report.

The next meeting will be Thursday, May 28, 1998 at 10:30 A.M. in Room 156-A of the State House.

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 A.M.